



# **TOWN OF READING**

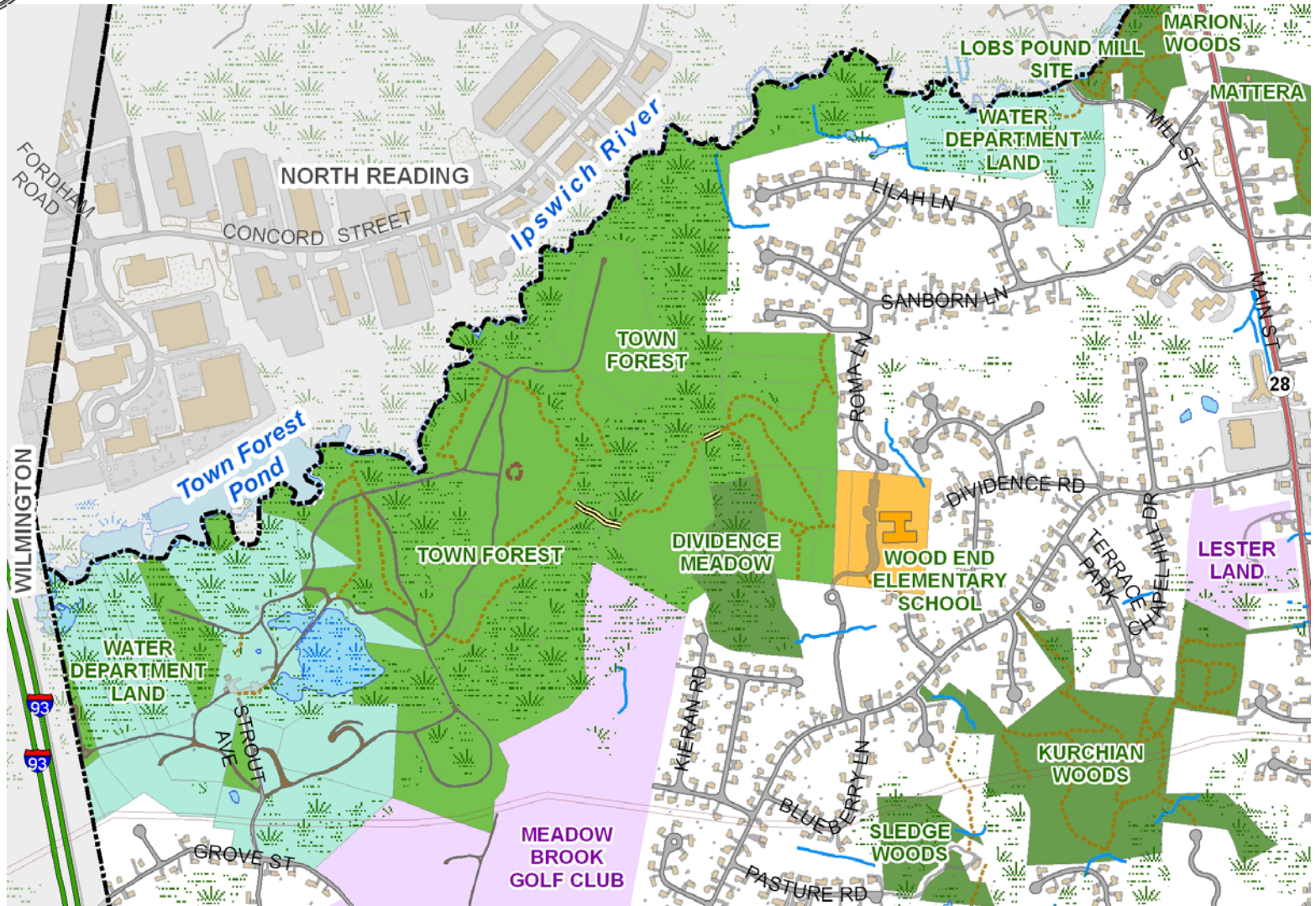
## **Town Forest Stewardship Plan**



**State Grant Funded Study**  
**June 30, 2010**



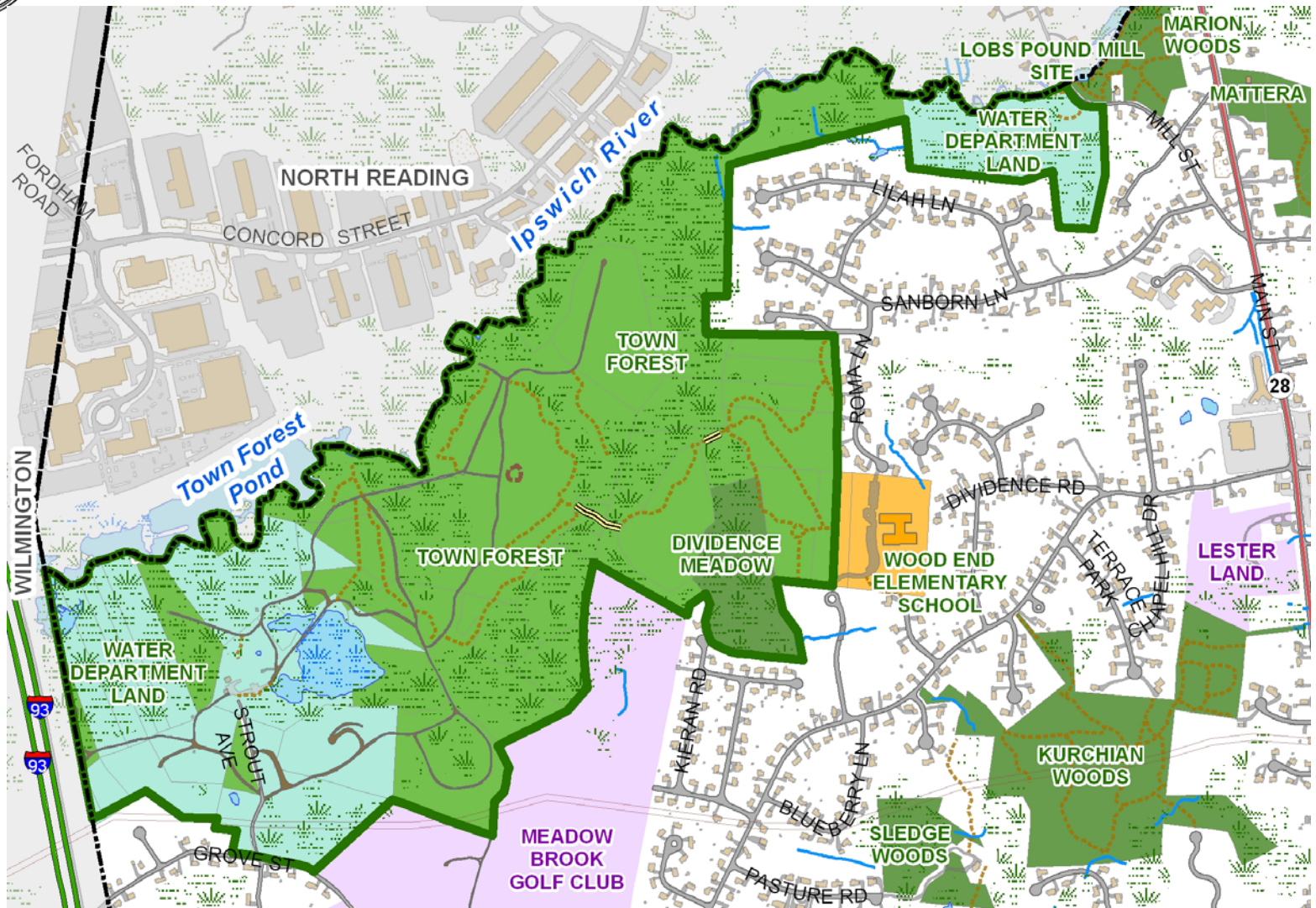
# Town Forest Area







# Forest Stewardship Plan Boundary



Stewardship plan includes contiguous lands controlled by other departments.



# Basic Facts – Town Forest

- 322 plus acres
- One of the single largest open space areas
- In addition to the natural regeneration, extensive areas were planted in the 1930's when the town forest was created.
- The town forest has many unique and interesting features including well used walking paths





# Town Forest Stewardship Goals

- Promote Biological Diversity
- Improve Access for Walking, Skiing, Recreation
- Improve Hunting/Fishing
- Preserve or Improve Scenic Beauty
- Protect Unique/Special/Cultural Areas
- Protect Water Quality





# Plan Highlights

## **STRENGTHS**

- ✓ The Town Forest is in good health
- ✓ Habitat diversity is superb
- ✓ Pristine setting for environmental education

## **WEAKNESSES**

- ✓ Intense visitor use



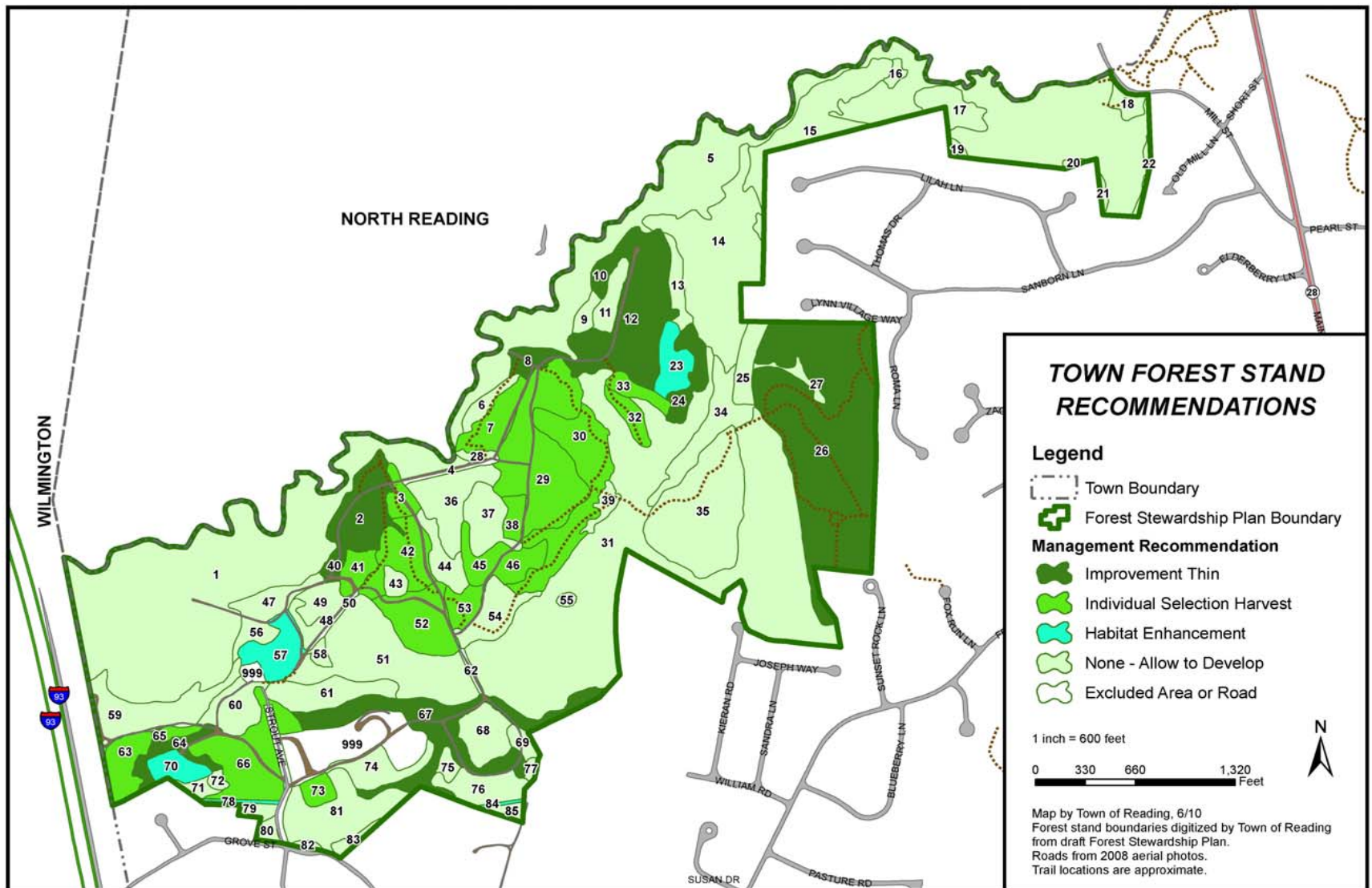
# Plan Highlights

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

- ✓ Developing and implementing an all-ages management program for the property will increase the diversity of tree sizes and species.
- ✓ enhancement and maintenance of the very modest amount of grassland and early successional habitats on this property.

## **THREATS**

- ✓ Non-native invasive plant species (long term)







# Town Forest – Summary

- The Town Forest Stewardship Plan records existing conditions of the Town Forest.
- Implementation of recommendations is the next step

